

# GREATER LAFAYETTE AREA TRANSPORTATION & DEVELOPMENT STUDY

## TECHNICAL TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

### MEETING MINUTES

November 19, 2008

Jon Fricker  
Sallie Fahey  
Bob Foley (proxy for Jennifer Bonner)  
Bob Montgomery  
Opal Kuhl  
Dave Buck  
Jim Knapp (proxy for Betty Stansbury)  
Capt. Chris Leroux  
Marty Sennett  
Sgt. Max Smith  
Capt. Rick Walker

Area Plan Commission  
Lafayette City Engineer's Office  
INDOT – Crawfordsville Division  
Tippecanoe County Highway Director  
West Lafayette City Engineer  
Purdue University Airport  
West Lafayette Police Department  
CityBus  
Lafayette Police Department  
Tippecanoe County Sheriff's Department

#### NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT

Dana Smith

Lafayette-West Lafayette Chamber of Commerce

#### ALSO PRESENT

Dorothy Schneider  
Ryan Smith  
Doug Poad  
Melissa Baldwin  
John Thomas  
Anna Burman

Lafayette Journal & Courier  
BFS  
APC  
APC  
APC  
APC

Chair Jon Fricker called the meeting to order at 2:00p.m.

### **I. APPROVAL OF THE OCTOBER 15, 2008 MEETING MINUTES**

Opal Kuhl moved to approve the minutes of the October 15, 2008 meeting as submitted. Bob Foley seconded and the minutes were approved by unanimous voice vote.

### **II. ACCESS PERMITS**

#### **1. SR 25 & CR 300 South**

Bob Montgomery stated the permit filed is a Tippecanoe County project in Shadeland at the intersection of SR 25 and CR 300 South. The proposal comes about because of the need to replace the bridge over the railroad tracks. At the same time the county is proposing to move the access to SR 25 a couple hundred feet to the west. Demolition has begun to make way for this project.

Opal Kuhl added that the Town of Shadeland has purchased the house on the corner and torn it down. Shadeland has also purchased a second home and plans to tear that down also. There were some sight distance issues coming off the bridge and swinging around to come into the intersection. The proposed changes will provide a better angle and improve sight distance.

Bob Montgomery stated that INDOT has no problems with this particular proposal and are asking for a positive recommendation from this Committee.

Opal Kuhl stated the road is being widened mainly to provide for farm equipment and improve the sight distance.

Bob Foley asked if the driveway parallel to SR 25, south of the bridge, will have a connection.

Opal Kuhl replied that the existing driveway will not have a connection but added that the houses that are left can be accessed from SR 25.

Bob Foley moved to accept the INDOT recommendation for the Access Permit for SR 25 and CR 300 S. Rick Walker seconded and the motion carried by voice vote.

### III. PROJECT PROGRAMMING AND THE INDIANA 2010-2011 BIENNIUM BUDGET

Sallie Fahey referred to the large spread sheet and accompanying explanation sheet that were distributed with the packet. She stated that at the MPO Executive Director's October meeting with INDOT officials, the Directors were notified that from now on not only will the allocation of Federal funds have to be programmed into the *TIP*s but the funds will also need to be allocated by month. MPO's must let INDOT know which biennial state budget the money will be placed in. This is something new but she feels the benefit is that it will allow INDOT to do the best they can to preserve any rollover money and unprogrammed funds from prior fiscal years. She added that the bad part is that we have to prove not only which biennial budget these projects are going to be in but also when the projects will be let by month and year. She referred to the distributed spread sheets and noted that to make the deadline, staff had to make some decisions with the assistance of the jurisdiction engineers. If a project is scheduled to be let in a fiscal year but for some reason the project is not let until the next fiscal year the money will be lost, if these fiscal years represent different biennial budgets. As a result, the letting decisions were conservatively made with regard to the letting dates. This means that if a project is ready to be let earlier than anticipated the money cannot be used until the project is scheduled to be let. She further stated a lot of flexibility has been lost with regard to how the money is used but hopefully will prevent funds from being lost.

She next explained how the budget was determined and highlighted how several projects were changed/moved. She noted that some of the changes were hastily made and will later require *TIP* amendments.

Dave Buck asked if the Lindberg Road \$285,000.00 that was a 2009 number is now a 2010 number and also if the Cumberland \$200,000.00 was a 2010 number that is now a 2009 number.

Doug Poad stated those numbers were in error and have been corrected now. The \$285,000.00 is now a 2009 number and the \$200,000.00 is now a 2010 number.

Sallie Fahey went on to say the second issue is the Change Order Policy adopted several years ago that pulled 5% of our money into a separate pot that could be used by any project having overruns within that fiscal year. Under this new INDOT mechanism there is no way for us to save out funds because the money must be tied to a project. The money that was previously set aside in 2010 and 2011 has been spread out through the projects on the spread sheet. In the future the Change Order Policy will have to be changed.

She concluded by stating that staff will be working on a large *TIP* amendment and drafting a new Change Order Policy.

She further stated that at the Administrative Committee meeting yesterday, Mark Albers suggested assigning a designation number to account for the money and track disbursement. Both she and Mark Albers will check into that possibility and inform the Committee of new changes other than what were outlined here.

Jon Fricker asked if the letting month guesses have a built-in cushion by delaying every project by a month.

Sallie Fahey responded that if the projects are scheduled near the end of the biennial cycle it was felt that that was needed to be done to protect the funds.

#### IV. PROGRESS REVIEW OF LOCAL PROJECTS

John Thomas stated that most projects are on schedule and very few are slipping. He promised to make the next round of reports a little more detailed.

#### V. HOT SPOT LIST

Melissa Baldwin stated that every year the public is invited to identify Transportation Hot Spots within Tippecanoe County. This year's comments and suggestions were collected from a Citizen Participation Committee meeting on September 23<sup>rd</sup> and the online Hot Spot submission form. She went on to say all hot spots are recorded into the Hot Spot Data Base and summarized for the report. This year the comments ranged from signal coordination, road widening and dangerous intersections to the need for trees, sidewalks and speed enforcement. She further stated that this year the list is arranged by responsible jurisdiction. This year there were 128 hot spots reported. 42% of the hot spots listed were bicycle and pedestrian facilities.

The top three complaints were:

1. Lack of sidewalks and paths on Lindberg Road near Klondike Road,
2. Lack of sidewalks and paths on SR 26 W near the campus area out to Klondike Road and
3. SR 25 N near Woodcliffe Acres.

Dave Buck believes there will be more complaints about SR 26 W near campus when US 231 has a trail that stops there.

The *Hot Spot List* can be found at:

[file:///M:/Mitsobfs1/DEPTS/APC/Transportation-APC/TIP/Hotspots/CY2008/2008 Transportation Hot Spot List.doc](file:///M:/Mitsobfs1/DEPTS/APC/Transportation-APC/TIP/Hotspots/CY2008/2008%20Transportation%20Hot%20Spot%20List.doc)

#### VI. APC PROGRESS REPORT

##### 1. INDOT 18-Month Letting List

Doug Poad distributed the most recent list printed from the INDOT website and stated no new projects have been added and only three minor changes occurred: one change to a Hoosier Heartland bridge project on SR 25 and changes to two projects on SR 38.

##### 2. Air Quality Discussion with EPA

John Thomas informed the Committee that a conference call was held last week with representatives from EPA, IDEM, FHWA, INDOT and staff. There is concern because the 2005, 2006 and 2007 data shows that we are in violation and will lose our attainment status. The purpose of the call was to see if EPA is receptive to receiving new data from 2008 to use in 2006, 2007 and 2008 data. That would show us still maintaining our attainment status. EPA is interested in doing that and more than willing to look at new data. Other areas have had a similar problem and the process of evaluating new data has been used before. He is more comfortable about retaining attainment status after talking with EPA. IDEM also agreed to look at the 2008 data quickly and forward it to EPA as soon as possible. The concern is that once being given the label of non-attainment reports have to be filed every year for 20 years, even if we were non-attainment for only one year.

Sallie Fahey concurred and added that the monitoring has to be done even if we are never non-attainment again. She hopes that IDEM does not delay doing its quality assurance of the 2008 data because there are deadlines. We will have to carefully monitor IDEM's work schedule to make sure they get it to EPA within the small window when EPA will accept new information. She went on to say it is hard to monitor state and Federal agencies from the local level but is still more optimistic than she was. From a transportation view, it means that every project in our jurisdiction, local and state, would have to be modeled for air quality.

Jon Fricker asked who collects the data.

John Thomas replied that IDEM collects the data from a station on Greenbush Avenue.

### **3. US 52 Corridor Study**

Opal Kuhl informed the Committee that she has the proposal from the consultants and the proposal is being reviewed at this time.

Dave Buck anticipated completing the review the middle of next week.

Sallie Fahey hopes the APC can complete its review before Thanksgiving.

Opal Kuhl stated she forwarded the electronic version of the interlocal agreement. It is basically a generic boilerplate and she was unaware of anything to add to the document. She asked the Committee for suggestions of additions to be made to the agreement by next week.

### **4. Hoosier Heartland Preconstruction Meeting**

John Thomas said a preconstruction meeting was held this week for the Walsh contract that was recently let for construction of four bridges and a section of road in the northeast corner of the county. The construction trailer has been set up and excavation is starting on Monday. The contract will run for a little over a year and a half.

Dave Buck asked where the project is located.

John Thomas replied that the project is at the Tippecanoe and Carroll County line. He highlighted the construction area on the map and added that the bridges are over the Norfolk Southern railroad lines.

Opal Kuhl noted that the project is on CR 900 W in Carroll County and will affect a small area in Tippecanoe County.

Sallie Fahey reminded the Committee that the APC has made INDOT staff aware as well as the project manager and as many other managers as possible that they cannot just dig a borrow-pit. They must come through and get special exception approval from the Board of Zoning Appeals by location. Staff has already had a conversation with Milestone and John Thomas will contact Walsh to talk about the requirements.

Opal Kuhl added that the first public hearing is Thursday, November 20<sup>th</sup> in Buck Creek.

## **VII. OTHER BUSINESS:**

Melissa Baldwin stated she has received many calls for moped crash information. She created a moped crash fact sheet with all the statistics for the last couple of years and put it on the APC website along with the crash report. She further stated all the moped crashes were in the CityBus service area and that half of the mopeds were licensed and half were not. She went on to say her next project will be to gather all the deer crash information and put it on the website.

Bob Foley stated that the HES project at State Street and Earl Avenue is ready to be reopened.

Jim Knapp asked if there is any new news about US 231.


Opal Kuhl responded that she heard that some people from the Christian Center met with the appraisers yesterday.

Jon Fricker stated the next meeting of the Technical Transportation Committee will be Wednesday, December 17, 2008 at 2:00pm.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT:**

Opal Kuhl moved to adjourn the meeting. Bob Foley seconded.

The meeting adjourned at 2:35p.m.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Sallie Dell Fahey". The ink is dark and the signature is written on a light-colored background.

Sallie Dell Fahey  
Secretary